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(c) whether the Government have taken medical opinion on the question whether the continuance of such a person as Matron is in the interests of the health of the students and, if so, what that opinion is?

A.—The Government will call for a report.

Number of residents in the Widows' Hostel in Triplicane.

*348 *Q.*—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what is the total number of residents in the Widows' Hostel in Triplicane;

(b) how many are Brahmans, Non-Brahmans and Adi-Dravidas;

(c) whether it is a fact that the hostel was first opened only for Brahmans;

(d) if so, when it was thrown open to members of other communities;

(e) whether it is a fact that though it is open to Non-Brahmans, Non-Brahmans are often denied admission and whether there have also been complaints that Non-Brahmans when admitted are treated badly;

(f) if the Government have no information, whether they will be pleased to call for a report on this matter;

(g) how long the present Superintendent has been in charge of this hostel and how many Brahman and Non-Brahman students have been residents during these years; and

(h) whether the Government will consider the desirability of appointing a Non-Brahman lady of enlightened views as Superintendent of this Hostel?

A.—(a) *to* (g) The information is not available but will be called for.

(h) The suggestion will be considered.

Opening of the Sarada Ladies' Home, Triplicane.

*349 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Superintendent of the Ice House Hostel has opened privately a similar hostel in Triplicane called the Sarada Ladies' Home;

(b) if so, whether she obtained the permission of the Government to do so;

(c) whether the Government gives her a grant or proposes to give one to run the institution;

(d) if the answer is in the affirmative, how much the grant is;

(e) whether there is a necessity to have this Home, and, if so, the reasons for the proposal to close the Ice House Hostel; and

(f) whether the Government are aware that the Sarada Ladies' Home is run entirely by the members of the family of the Superintendent of the Ice House Hostel?

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A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) & (*f*) The Government will call for the information.

(*e*) There is no proposal before Government to close the Ice House Hostel.

Grants to the Seva Sadan in Mylapore.

*350 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are giving a grant to the Seva Sadan in Mylapore;

(*b*) whether the Seva Sadan is an institution similar to the Government Hostel for Widows;

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative, what is the necessity for having three institutions of the same kind for widows in Madras;

(*d*) whether the Government has any institutions of this kind in the mufassal; and

(*e*) if the answer to (*d*) is in the negative, whether the Government will be pleased to consider the desirability of closing one of these institutions in the city and starting some in the districts?

A.—(*a*) The Seva Sadan, Mylapore, is receiving grants from the Industries Department in respect of the industrial section of the institution. An application for grants in respect of its educational section is under the consideration of the Government.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) No. The Governm nt are maintaining a hostel for widows in connexion with the Queen Mary's High School for Girls at Vizagapatam.

(*e*) The hon. Member's reference is perhaps to the Sarada Ladies' Home, the Seva Sadan and the Ice House Hostel. The first two are under private management.

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Public Health

Supply of drinking water to Salem town from the Mettur Project.

351 Q.—Subādar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state at what stage the question of supplying drinking water to Salem town from Cauvery-Mettur Project stands?

A.—The financing of the scheme is being considered.